

CITY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

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Ginny Hatfield, Vice-President
Steven Stokes, Treasurer
Dorothy Apple, Secretary
Daryl Baskin
Richard Davies
Cathy Flynn
Sandy Hubbard
Suzanne Lewis
Dale Liebowitz-Neglia
Richard Poole
Paulette Stokes
Charles Sulahian
Jeff Walker
Marc Woersching
Alex Rostad, Student Representative



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Minutes of the **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL VALLEY VILLAGE (NCVV)** **GENERAL BOARD MEETING** **Wednesday, February 25, 2015**

Faith Presbyterian Church – 5000 Colfax Ave., Valley Village, CA 91601

NCVV (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary; Minutes were not, are not and are never meant to be an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript or comprehensive record of what was said at a Meeting. Exceptions: Motion(s) (included as stated at the Meeting, or, if not stated, as written on the Agenda); quotes (words that have quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and Agenda wording copied into the Minutes.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution – Mr. Braswell

President Tony Braswell introduced himself and called the Meeting to order at 6:43 p.m. He explained the NCVV’s role and State Brown Act and Robert’s Rules of Order adherence. He noted that Speaker Cards were available.

Roll Call was taken by the Minutes Writer. Twelve of the 15 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Daryl Baskin, At-Large (A); Tony Braswell, Renter; Richard Davies, Business; Cathy Flynn, Education; Ginny Hatfield, Homeowner; Suzanne Lewis, Renter; Dale Liebowitz-Neglia, At-Large (B); Alex Rostad, Student; Paulette Stokes, Renter; Steven Stokes, Renter; Jeff Walker, Homeowner; and Marc Woersching, Community-Based. Three Board Members were absent: Sandy Hubbard, Homeowner; Richard Poole, Faith-Based; and Charles Sulahian, Business. The NCVV quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is nine, of which three must be elected officers (see <http://69.89.31.152/~myvalle7/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/NCVV-Bylaws.pdf>), so the Board could take such votes. Fourteen of the 15 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). One Board Seat (Homeowner) was vacant. Also attending: 49 Stakeholders and Guests.

2. Election for NCVV Board Secretary – Ms. Hatfield, Mr. Simen (Parliamentarian)

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #6.*] Stuart Simen, NCVV Parliamentarian, announced that Board Members elected Dale Liebowitz-Neglia as the new Secretary.

3. Public Comment on Agenda items

Steven Butcher, Field Representative for State 46th District Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian (818-376-4246; Steven.Butcher@asm.ca.gov; <http://asmdc.org/members/a46>), encouraged contacting him for help.

4. February Guest Speaker – Neighborhood Prosecutor Diego Edber

Diego Edber, L.A. City Deputy Attorney, Neighborhood Prosecutor Program (818.374.6820; Diego.Edber@LACity.org; <http://atty.LACity.org/Criminal/NeighborhoodProsecutorProgram/index.htm>), reported that some marijuana dispensaries are “Proposition D-compliant” [see http://atty.lacity.org/stellent/groups/electedofficials/@atty_contributor/documents/contributor_web_content/lacityp_026199.pdf]; if you see one you believe may be non-compliant contact him. He described Proposition 47 legislation that caused some drug-related crimes to now be categorized as misdemeanors. He noted more arrests in the area of “transients” and the possible Prop 47 cause. He described the challenge of focusing law enforcement on that or on closing illegal dispensaries, though both are being prosecuted. Regarding short-term rentals, the City Council is considering what to legalize and described the law enforcement challenge. He encouraged contacting the Police [9-1-1] and file a report “if you see suspicious activity,” saying “the more calls the Police have, the more attention they’ll pay to it.” He will visit a sober living home on Vantage Ave. by Burbank Elementary School with Manny Arreygue, LAPD North Hollywood Division Senior Lead Officer (cell/text 818-634-0829; office 818-623-4016; 30026@LAPD.LACity.org; http://www.lapdonline.org/north_hollywood_community_police_station). Stakeholders Cassie Stetham and Tim Guartha cautioned about identifying people as felons and noted the value of sober living homes. Mr. Edber clarified that sober living homes with seven or more residents are regulated; those with six or less residents are “not regulated.” Complaints can be anonymous; “you never have to leave your name or number.” Ms. Hatfield encouraged emailing a copy of complaints to the NCVV at Info@MyValleyVillage.com.

Mr. Edber announced a City Attorney Town Hall Meeting March 18th, 6:30 p.m. at the LAPD Station [11640 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood].

5. Executive Committee Report – Ms. Hatfield

There was no report at this time.

6. Finance Report – Mr. Stokes

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #7.*] Mr. Stokes distributed and reviewed the NCVV “January Monthly Expenditure Report”; “Budget Report . . . as of

January 31, 2015”; and monthly “Union Bank Statement of Accounts” for January. He reviewed last month’s expenses of \$132.29 and described recent funding reallocations. Year-to-date “expenditures & commitments” are \$9,748; around \$27,000 remains and must be allocated by June 30th. Banner designs and prices need to be submitted to him by April. Mr. Braswell noted that the banners would cost around \$19,000.

FUNDING MOTION (by the Committee): The Neighborhood Council Valley Village approves its Treasurer’s Report and Monthly Expenditure Report for January 2015.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with all 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Baskin, Braswell, Davies, Flynn, Hatfield, Lewis, Liebowitz-Neglia, Paulette Stokes, Steven Stokes, Walker and Woersching); 0 opposed; 0 abstained. Mr. Rostad was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

[The following was addressed after Item #2.]

MOTION (by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mr. Baskin): The Neighborhood Council Valley Village will allocate funds for a Minutes Writer through the June 30th end of this Fiscal Year.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 eligible voters present with all 11 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Baskin, Braswell, Davies, Flynn, Hatfield, Lewis, Liebowitz-Neglia, Paulette Stokes, Steven Stokes, Walker and Woersching); 0 opposed; 0 abstained. Mr. Rostad was ineligible to vote due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

7. Committee Reports

Planning and Land Use – Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia

Motion: [see the below Motion]. Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia reported that the Committee is “not opposing the liquor license”; copies were distributed of and she read aloud the “Proposed Conditions for 7-Eleven” she said were “given to them by the [City] Council Office and the Police Department.” She said the applicant assured that there were no complaints from neighbors. Bruce Evans, a developer representative, described writing the conditions with the Police and “two Planning Deputies.”

MOTION (by the Committee): The Neighborhood Council Valley Village does not oppose the ABC CUP for 7-11 at 12450 Burbank Boulevard provided applicant meets all of the conditions set forth by office of CD2 and North Hollywood PD as presented in the February PLU meeting.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Braswell noted that Cambridge Farms is across the street and that the Orthodox Jewish community does not oppose the application.

MOTION PASSED with no objection.

[Proposed] Motion: Support the Expansion Site Plan for Oakwood School and recognize the reduced height of the buildings as requested by NCVV and VVHA in 2014

Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia explained that “we’re expediting asking that the bridge be built” and described the Motions. Mr. Braswell described the process of presentations having been made to the Committee, then to the Board, and the history of the Motions. He encouraged viewing NCVV website Committee link information and said “this is a long-term plan.” Oakwood Headmaster Jim Astman (818-732-3010; astman@oakwoodschoo.org; http://OakwoodSchool.org) reported that all crosswalks around the School have been upgraded for better pedestrian and vehicle safety. Mikie Maloney, the School’s Director of Community & Public Relations (MMaloney@oakwoodschoo.org), was introduced. Their planning consultant said they are applying in March for a Master Conditional Use Permit (CUP) which would include 188,000 square feet of new area (where St. David’s Church was), increasing the campus size 95%. She said, “we’re exceeding the parking by at least 30 spaces. The tallest building height would be 45 feet “along the commercial corridor” on Magnolia Blvd. There are homes to the rear, along which the height would be “to 26 feet . . . it does include a landscape buffer between the campus and the homes.” It has 455 students; they are requesting to increase enrollment 16 percent. Mr. Astman said, “we’re committed to being good neighbors.”

Architect Brenda Levin described the facilities, including structures to be demolished and added. There would be on-grade parking and two below-grade parking levels making 340 spaces that would be “totally screened.” She said, “we’re trying to get everything on our property so it doesn’t impact the neighborhood.” The bridge “is not public . . . it cannot be accessed from the street . . . enters at the second floor on both sides” and is at the second level at 17 feet, six inches above ground. The north side is where St. David’s was; the south side would connect to the Math-Science building. The bridge is “open air” with “mesh screening . . . it’ll be lit.”

Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia and Mr. Braswell noted that the applicant has “tried to work with us . . . to be sensitive to what we were asking for.”

Ms. Levin believed that Magnolia probably would be closed only for the bridge construction; the School’s Construction Manager indicated for “probably around three months.” Ms. Levin indicated that it is “at least a five”-year project. Other staff said the School may “receive a Mitigated Negative Declaration” as part of the Environmental Impact Report [EIR], including construction truck routes.

MOTION (by the Committee): The Neighborhood Council Valley Village supports the Expansion Site Plan for Oakwood School and recognizes the reduced height of the buildings as requested by NCVV and VVHA in 2014.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia reported that the Committee voted 7-0 to support the Plan.

MOTION PASSED with no objection.

Motion: [see the below Motion].

MOTION (by the Committee): The Neighborhood Council Valley Village supports expediting building of pedestrian bridge and request signage that identifies entry to Valley Village.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia reported that the Committee voted 7-0 to support the Plan. She and Mr. Braswell will work with the Board and the City Council to have a sign installed on the bridge.

MOTION PASSED with no objection.

5303 North Hermitage request for historic cultural designation.

Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia described the project. Stakeholder Jennifer Getz described the historic value and qualification of the structure under the City's historic structure Code. She passed around copies of supporting documentation and photos and described different uses of the structure since it was built in the late 1930's. There was discussion of the application process; Mr. Braswell, Ms. Hatfield and Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia noted that a previous application had been made. Ms. Getz explained that this application was submitted two years ago to the L.A. Office of Historic Resources. She stated that "the owner is not opposed" to and the owner's consent is "not required" for the application. Ms. Getz has 36 support signatures and "an online support petition . . . 90% are Valley Village." Stakeholders in attendance expressed support. Ms. Getz reported that the Hearing will be March 5th.

MOTION (by Mr. Braswell, seconded by Mr. Walker): The Neighborhood Council Valley Village Executive Committee will communicate with the owner of the property at 5303 N. Hermitage in Valley Village; if the owner supports the application for historic cultural designation, the NCVV will write a letter of support.

MOTION PASSED with no objection.

RFA Update.

Mr. Braswell reported that the City Council's Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee heard more than 100 public comments about the RFA (Residential Floor Area District; approximately 75% were in favor of having an RFA. PLUM postponed making a decision until their March 17th Meeting. He noted that the NCVV wants an RFA for Valley Village.

Events & Outreach – Ms. Lewis

Ms. Lewis announced the free Green Living Fair on April 18th, 10:00-2:00 at Valleyheart Dr. and Longridge Ave., [one block east of Fulton, two blocks south of Moorpark, on the south/hill side of the River] Studio City that the NCVV is co-sponsoring with other Neighborhood Councils; there will be family activities and information about gardening, urban farming, water conservation and more, and unusable batteries and lightbulbs will be collected. The next Movie Night possibly may be around July 18th. The Committee is "working on the bus benches."

Valley Village Vision Task Force – Ms. Hubbard

Ms. Hubbard was not present and there was no report.

City Services – Mr. Walker

Having a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) (818-756-9674; www.cert-la.com, lafdcert@LACity.org) program/training class was discussed with the Neighborhood Watch. Mr. Braswell added that the NCVV would have eight radios costing \$400 total; Mr. Walker said “they’re dual purpose.”

Communications – Ms. Flynn

Ms. Flynn reported that the Committee will meet quarterly. She encouraged signing up for the NCVV Newsletter. She encouraged to “like” the NCVV Facebook page and visit the NCVV website [www.MyValleyVillage.com]. Mr. Braswell noted that the NCVV will have to change its website vendor.

Elections and Bylaws – Ms. Hatfield

Ms. Hatfield described the Secretary election procedure. Board Members were asked to vote for one of the following Candidates: Ms. Lewis, Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia or Mr. Woersching [see above Agenda Item #2.]. One Board Seat (Homeowner) was vacant; Ms. Hatfield described the procedure and documents needed to apply for consideration.

8. Public Comment

Imelda Padilla, a LAANE (L.A. Alliance for a New Economy; 213-381-5611; LARaiseTheWage.org) Organizer, distributed fliers about their campaign to raise the minimum wage. She described work to encourage hiring American workers for jobs. Mr. Braswell will Agendize this for a five-to-ten-minute presentation at the March [25th] Board Meeting.

9. Future Agenda Items, Closing Comments

Mr. Braswell declared the Meeting **ADJOURNED** 9:16 p.m.

Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by NCVV. *The first paragraph of some Items is directly from the Agenda.*